



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161

<http://ct.gov/dmv>



Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles
Commissioner Michael Bzdyra

Insurance and Real Estate Committee
March 2, 2017

House Bill 7126- AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES

Senators Larson and Kelly, Representative Scanlon and distinguished members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill 7126. House Bill 7126 is a step toward establishing reasonable regulation and oversight of TNCs; however the Department of Motor Vehicles (Department) does have some specific concerns regarding the proposed bill:

1. In order to maximize the potential for engaging only safe and responsible drivers, TNCs should be obligated to perform periodic criminal and driving history checks of TNC drivers;
2. TNC drivers should also have an affirmative duty to report any criminal convictions or motor vehicle offenses to the applicable TNC, including immediate notification of suspension or revocation of the driver's license;
3. In sections 2 through 6, there is a requirement that the respective agencies adopt regulations. While agency regulations may be necessary, discretion should be left to each agency as to whether regulations are needed to clarify or refine the statute;
4. In section 3(b)(1)(iii), "section 14-227a" should be replaced with "section 14-227b." The latter section governs the administrative suspension of a license after a DUI offense. Section 14-227a is covered in section 3(b)(2), which refers to convictions for operating under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
5. In section 3(f), it should be made clear which commissioner is responsible for the regulations required under that section;
6. Finally, section 9 simplifies the criminal background checks for the **owners** of a taxi company, authorizing those checks to be completed by a third party vendor rather than the DOT. However, if the intent of this bill is to allow third party background checks for taxicab drivers, section 9 should propose changes to section 14-44 of the general statutes, not section 13b-97.

The Department looks forward to working with the Insurance and Real Estate Committee to refine this bill and establish consensus for regulating the TNC industry moving forward.